

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (previously presented) A non-lethal projectile comprising:
 - a projectile nose joined to a projectile base;
 - said projectile nose comprising a cavity;
 - a payload disposed within said cavity; and
 - said projectile nose composed of a frangible, rigid, polymer foam material;wherein said projectile nose has a rounded forward end and a cylindrical wall, said cylindrical wall being thinner than said forward end, such that said thinner cylindrical wall breaks prior to said forward end upon impact to absorb and dissipate impact energy and such that said payload is dispersed laterally through said cylindrical wall in multiple directions upon impact.
2. (canceled)
3. (original) The projectile of claim 1, wherein said foam material has a density between approximately 8 and 14 pounds per cubic foot.
4. (canceled)
5. (canceled)

6. (previously presented) The projectile of claim 1, wherein said payload is chosen from the group of payloads consisting of marker agents, lacrimators, irritants, inflammatory agents, odorants and inert powders.

7. (previously presented) The projectile of claim 1, said projectile nose further comprising a rear plug wall joined to said cylindrical wall, the combination of said forward end, said cylindrical wall and said rear plug wall defining said nose cavity.

8. (original) The projectile of claim 7, wherein said payload is chosen from the group of payloads consisting of marker agents, lacrimators, irritants, inflammatory agents, odorants and inert powders.

9. (original) The projectile of claim 7, wherein said rear plug wall is joined to said projectile base.

10. (original) The projectile of claim 1, wherein said foam material is a polyurethane.

11. (canceled)

12. (previously presented) The projectile of claim 7, wherein said projectile base comprises a forward wall joined to a cylindrical wall.

13. (previously presented) The projectile of claim 12, wherein said projectile base comprises a forward wall joined to a cylindrical wall, and wherein said rear plug wall is joined directly to said forward wall of said projectile base.

14. (previously presented) A non-lethal impact munition comprising:

a projectile comprising a projectile nose and a projectile base, said projectile separably joined to a propulsion shell comprising propulsion means to separate said projectile from said propulsion shell;

said projectile nose composed of a frangible, rigid, polymer foam material characterized in that said projectile nose is crushed upon impact with a target in a manner that absorbs and dissipates energy of impact, said projectile nose comprising a cavity;

wherein said projectile nose has a rounded forward end and a cylindrical wall, said cylindrical wall being thinner than said forward end, such that said thinner cylindrical wall breaks prior to said forward end upon impact to absorb and dissipate impact energy.

15. (canceled)

16. (original) The munition of claim 14, wherein said foam material has a density between approximately 8 and 14 pounds per cubic foot.

17. (canceled)

18. (previously presented) The munition of claim 14, further comprising a payload disposed within said cavity, wherein said payload is laterally dispersed from said cavity upon impact through said thinner cylindrical wall.

19. (original) The munition of claim 18, wherein said payload is chosen from the group of payloads consisting of marker agents, lacrimators, irritants, inflammatory agents, odorants and inert powders.

20. (previously presented) The munition of claim 14, said projectile nose further comprising a rear plug wall joined to said cylindrical wall, the combination of said forward end, said cylindrical wall and said rear plug wall defining a nose cavity.

21. (currently amended) The munition of claim 20, further comprising a payload disposed within said nose cavity, wherein said payload is chosen from the group of payloads consisting of marker agents, lacrimators, irritants, inflammatory agents, odorants and inert powders.

22. (currently amended) The munition of claim 20, wherein said rear plug wall is joined to said projectile base.

23. (original) The munition of claim 14, wherein said foam material is a polyurethane.

24. (canceled)

25. (previously presented) The munition of claim 14, wherein said projectile base comprises a forward wall joined to a cylindrical wall.

26. (original) The munition of claim 20, wherein said projectile base comprises a forward wall joined to a cylindrical wall, and wherein said rear plug wall is joined to said forward wall of said projectile base.

27. (previously presented) A non-lethal impact munition comprising:

a projectile comprising a projectile nose and a projectile base, said projectile separably joined to a propulsion shell comprising propulsion means to separate said projectile from said propulsion shell;

said propulsion shell further comprising an annular forward wall having a forward shell rim, a shell base joined to said shell forward wall, and a propulsion cavity disposed in said shell base, said propulsion means being retained by said propulsion cavity;

said projectile base comprising a forward wall joined to a cylindrical wall to define a projectile cavity, and a rearward extending annular insertion flange, whereby said insertion flange is received within said shell rim and said shell forward wall such that said shell cavity and said projectile cavity are combined;

said projectile nose comprising a rear plug wall joined to a cylindrical wall and a forward end joined to said cylindrical wall, the combination of said forward end, said cylindrical wall and said rear plug wall defining a nose cavity, said projectile nose composed of a frangible, rigid, polymer foam material characterized in that said projectile nose is sufficiently rigid to maintain aerodynamic stability during flight but is sufficiently frangible to crush upon impact with a target

in a manner that absorbs and dissipates energy of impact to reduce the energy transferred to such target by said projectile; and

a payload disposed within said cavity of said projectile nose, whereby said payload is laterally dispersed from said projectile nose upon impact, such that additional energy of impact is dissipated to reduce the energy transferred to such target by said projectile.

28. (previously presented) The munition of claim 27, said cylindrical wall being thinner than said forward end.

29. (original) The munition of claim 27, wherein said foam material has a density between approximately 8 and 14 pounds per cubic foot.

30. (original) The munition of claim 27, wherein said payload is chosen from the group of payloads consisting of marker agents, lacrimators, irritants, inflammatory agents, odorants and inert powders.

31. (canceled)

32. (previously presented) The munition of claim 27, wherein said rear wall of said projectile nose is joined directly to said forward wall of said projectile base.